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NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark
Office
Box PCT
Washington, D.C.20231
ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

in its capacity as elected Office

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 24 July 2000 (24.07.00)	
International application No. PCT/AU99/01144	Applicant's or agent's file reference 1058/AI
International filing date (day/month/year) 22 December 1999 (22.12.99)	Priority date (day/month/year) 22 December 1998 (22.12.98)
Applicant GOLLEDGE, Bradbury, Frank	

1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:

☒ in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:

29 June 2000 (29.06.00)

☐ in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:2. The election ☒ was☐ was not

made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35	Authorized officer Claudio Borton Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38
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INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TREATY
PCT
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT
(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

REC'D 29 NOV 2000
REPORT PCT

Applicant's or agent's file reference 1058/AI	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416).
International Application No. PCT/AU99/01144	International Filing Date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 22 December 1999	Priority Date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 22 December 1998
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC Int. Cl. ⁷ E04B 5/10, E04C 3/08		
Applicant GOLLEDGE, Bradbury Frank		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 3 sheets, including this cover sheet.
- ☒ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of 4 sheet(s).

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- | | | |
|------|-------------------------------------|---|
| I | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Basis of the report |
| II | <input type="checkbox"/> | Priority |
| III | <input type="checkbox"/> | Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability |
| IV | <input type="checkbox"/> | Lack of unity of invention |
| V | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement |
| VI | <input type="checkbox"/> | Certain documents cited |
| VII | <input type="checkbox"/> | Certain defects in the international application |
| VIII | <input type="checkbox"/> | Certain observations on the international application |

Date of submission of the demand 29 June 2000	Date of completion of the report 17 November 2000
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaaustralia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929	Authorized Officer A.R. HENDRICKSON Telephone No. (02) 6283 2415

I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*
- ☐ the international application as originally filed.
- ☒ the description, pages 1-14, as originally filed,
pages , filed with the demand,
pages , received on with the letter of
- ☒ the claims, pages , as originally filed,
pages , as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19,
pages , filed with the demand,
pages 15-18, received on 13 November 2000 with the letter of 13 November 2000
- ☒ the drawings, pages 1-15, as originally filed,
pages , filed with the demand,
pages , received on with the letter of
- ☐ the sequence listing part of the description:
pages , as originally filed
pages , filed with the demand
pages , received on with the letter of
2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language which is:
- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3).
3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, was on the basis of the sequence listing:
- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished
4. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
- ☐ the description, pages
- ☐ the claims, Nos.
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/fig.
5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Claims 1-21	YES
	Claims	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims 1-21	YES
	Claims	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-21	YES
	Claims	NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)**Novelty (N) and Inventive Step (IS) claims 1-21**

The invention of the independent claims comprises a floor framing system including a load-bearing framework having at least two elongate members and at least one structural web member extending between the structural members. The structural members resemble an inverted top-hat section and the web member has at least one web element which is substantially upright and at least one flange element which is perpendicular to the web element. None of the documents identified in the International Search Report disclose such an arrangement nor is such an arrangement obvious in the light of any of the cited documents nor disclosed in any obvious combination of any of these documents.

CLAIMS

1. A floor framing system for a building, said floor framing system including a plurality of elongate load bearing framework members which are supported by the building or foundations thereof, and which support flooring material, ceiling linings, battens or other like ceiling framing members, said elongate load bearing framework members having at least two elongate structural members and at least one structural web member extending between said elongate structural members, wherein said elongate structural members resemble an inverted top-hat section with two flange elements and two web elements which are substantially upright with a third web element perpendicular to and adjoining the two said web elements, said flange elements also being perpendicular to said two web elements, and said at least one web structural member has at least one web element which is substantially upright and at least one flange element which is perpendicular to said web element, whereby the at least one web elements of said web structural members mate with said web elements of said elongate structural members such that connection means can be applied at the mating locations.
2. The floor framing system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said third web elements of at least said elongate structural members is/are discontinuous to allow said web elements to mate.
3. The floor framing system as claimed in claim 2, wherein said discontinuities are formed by notches or openings in the third web element which allows said web element of said web structural member to protrude therethrough.
4. The floor framing system as claimed in claims 1 to 3, wherein said elongate structural web members resemble an inverted top-hat section with two said flange elements and two said web elements with a third web element perpendicular to and adjoining the two said web elements.
5. The floor framing system as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein said elongate structural web members resemble a box section with a slit in one side with two said flange elements being separated by the slit, two said web elements with a third web element perpendicular to and adjoining the two said web elements.

6. The floor framing system as claimed in claim 5, wherein said slit is the result the edges of the flanges of curling adjacent the slit being curled.
7. The floor framing system as claimed in any one of claims 4 to 6, wherein the ends of the web elements of the elongate web members are notched such that the flange elements of the web members enclose the web elements of the elongate structural members.
8. The floor framing system as claimed in any one of claims 4 to 7, wherein at least one of said elongate structural web members is bent into a vee profile.
9. The floor framing system as claimed in claim 8, wherein the bending of the at least one of said elongate structural web members is facilitated by the provision of a slot intermediate the ends of the members.
10. The floor framing system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein longitudinal central axes of the elongate structural members and said structural web member(s) are substantially aligned centrally.
11. The floor framing system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the elongate structural web members are either perpendicular to or diagonal to said elongate structural members.
12. The floor framing system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the elongate structural members are substantially parallel.
13. The floor framing system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the elongate structural members are substantially in the same plane and form triangular or trapezoidal framework geometries.
14. The floor framing system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the the flanges of the elongate structural members are extended and over bent flange stiffening elements.

15. The floor framing system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the floor system is stiffened by at least one stiffening member oriented substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axes of the elongate structural members.

5 16. A floor framing system for a building, said floor framing system including a plurality of elongate load bearing framework members which are supported by the building or foundations thereof, and which support flooring material, ceiling linings, battens or other like ceiling framing members, said elongate load bearing framework members having at least two elongate structural members and at least one structural web member extending
10 between said elongate structural members, wherein said elongate structural members resemble an inverted top-hat section with two flange elements and two web elements which are substantially upright with a third web element perpendicular to and adjoining the two said web elements, said flange elements also being perpendicular to said two web elements, and said at least one web structural member has at least one flange element
15 which is substantially upright and at least one web element which is perpendicular to said flange element, whereby the at least one flange elements of said web structural member mates with said elements of said elongate structural members such that connection means can be applied at the mating locations.

20 17. The floor framing system as claimed in claim 16, wherein said third web elements of at least said elongate structural members is/are discontinuous to allow said web elements to mate.

18. The floor framing system as claimed in claim 17, wherein said discontinuities are formed by notches or openings in the third web element which allows said web element of
25 said web structural member to protrude therethrough.

19. The floor framing system as claimed in claim 16, wherein said elongate structural web members resemble an inverted Cee section with two said flange elements and one said web elements.

20. The floor framing system as claimed in any one of claims 17 to 19, wherein the ends of
30 the web elements of the elongate web members are notched such that the flange elements of the web members mate with the web elements of the elongate structural members.

21. The floor framing system as claimed in any one of claims 17 to 20, wherein at least one of said elongate structural web members is bent into a vee profile.